

AIM: How did nationalism lead to conflict in the 19th century?

DO NOW: List some common bonds (things in common that make people feel like a group) that might cause people to want to form a nation-state, OR might help a nation-state stay together.

Q1: Take notes on the reading using these guiding questions: Which empires controlled most of Central and Eastern Europe? Identify some ethnic groups that lived in each of these empires. Why did this cause problems? For all three empires, what was the end result of these problems by 1918?

Three aging empires—the **Austrian Empire** of the Hapsburgs, the **Russian Empire** of the Romanovs, and the **Ottoman Empire** of the Turks—contained a mixture of ethnic groups. Control of land and ethnic groups moved back and forth between these empires, depending on victories or defeats in war and on royal marriages. When nationalism emerged in the 19th century, ethnic unrest threatened and eventually toppled these empires.

The Austrian Empire brought together Slovenes, Hungarians, Germans, Czechs, Slovaks, Croats, Poles, Serbs, and Italians. In 1866, Prussia defeated Austria in the Austro-Prussian War, gaining control of the North German Confederation, which included 21 smaller German political units. Then, pressured by the Hungarians, Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria split his empire in half, declaring Austria and Hungary independent states, with himself as ruler of both. The empire was now called Austria-Hungary or the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Nationalist disputes continued to weaken the empire for more than 40 years. In 1918, after World War I, Austria-Hungary broke into several separate nation-states.



Nationalism also helped break up the 370-year old empire of the czars in Russia. In addition to the Russians themselves, the czar ruled over 22 million Ukrainians, 8 million Poles, and smaller numbers of Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Finns, Jews, Romanians, Georgians, Armenians, Turks, and others. Each group had its own culture. The ruling Romanov dynasty of Russia was determined to maintain iron control over this diversity. They instituted a policy of **Russification**, forcing Russian culture on all the ethnic groups in the empire. This policy actually strengthened ethnic nationalist feelings and helped to disunify Russia. The weakened czarist empire finally could not withstand the double shock of World War I and the communist revolution. The last Romanov czar gave up his power in 1917.

The ruling Turks of the Ottoman Empire controlled Greeks, Slavs, Arabs, Bulgarians, and Armenians. In 1856, under pressure from the British and French, the Ottomans granted equal citizenship to all the people under their rule. That measure angered conservative Turks, who wanted no change in the situation, and caused tensions in the empire. For example, in response to nationalism in Armenia, the Ottomans massacred and deported Armenians from 1894 to 1896 and again in 1915. Like Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire broke apart soon after World War I in 1918.

Q2: Take notes on the reading using these guiding questions: How did Italy become unified? Which three leaders were involved? What were their roles? When was Italy finally unified? Who was the king?



While nationalism destroyed empires, it also built nations. Italy was one of the countries to form from the territory of crumbling empires. Between 1815 and 1848, fewer and fewer Italians were content to live under foreign rulers. There were three great leaders of Italian nationalism. The first was **Giuseppe Mazzini**, who formed the Young Italy national movement in 1831, but was exiled for his views. His writings and speeches provided inspiration to the nationalist movement, however.

Italian nationalists looked for leadership from Piedmont-Sardinia, the largest and most powerful Italian state. The kingdom had adopted a liberal constitution in 1848, so liberal Italian middle classes supported unification under Piedmont-Sardinia. In 1852, king Victor Emmanuel II named **Count Camillo di Cavour** prime minister. Cavour was a cunning statesman who worked tirelessly to expand Piedmont-Sardinia's power. Using skillful diplomacy and well-chosen alliances he set about gaining control of northern Italy. Cavour realized that the greatest roadblock to annexing northern Italy was Austria. In 1858, the French emperor Napoleon III agreed to help drive Austria out of northern Italy. Cavour then provoked a war with Austria. A combined French-Sardinian army won two quick victories, giving Sardinia control all of northern Italy, except Venetia.



As Cavour was uniting northern Italy, he secretly started helping nationalist rebels in southern Italy. In May 1860, a small army of Italian nationalists led by **Giuseppe Garibaldi** captured Sicily. In battle, Garibaldi always wore a bright red shirt, as did his followers. As a result, they became known as the Red Shirts. From Sicily, Garibaldi and his forces crossed to the Italian mainland and marched north. Eventually, Garibaldi agreed to unite the southern areas he had conquered with the kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia. Cavour arranged for King Victor Emmanuel II to meet Garibaldi in Naples. "The Red One" agreed to step aside and let the Sardinian king rule. In 1866, the Austrian province of Venetia, which included the city of Venice, became part of Italy. In 1870, Italian forces took over the last part of a territory known as the Papal States. With this victory, Rome came under Italian control. Soon after, Rome became the capital of the united kingdom of Italy. The pope, however, would continue to govern a section of Rome known as Vatican City.

Q3: Take notes on the reading using these guiding questions: What was Germany like before unification? What were two early steps to unification? Who was Otto von Bismarck? What was his policy? How did he pursue this strategy? When was Germany finally unified? Who was king?



The Congress of Vienna of 1815 created the German Confederation, which was made up 39 independent German states. Prussia was the largest and most powerful of these states. However, many of the other states were under the control of the Austrian empire. In 1838, a free trade association called the Zollverein was set up which united many German states economically.

Many Germans believed that unity could only be gained under Prussian leadership. King Wilhelm I shared this goal. To help him achieve it, he appointed **Otto von Bismarck** as his chief minister in 1862. Bismarck set forth a policy called "blood and iron." Bismarck believed that the only way to unite the German states was through war. In seven years, Bismarck led Prussia into three wars – against Denmark, Austria, and France. Each war increased Prussia's prestige and moved the German states closer to unity. In 1871, the German states united under Wilhelm. As their ruler, William called himself the kaiser, a title that was derived from the name Caesar and meant "emperor."